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FCC-MAILROOM

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Rochester NY 14616

Saturday, August 10,2002

Commissioner Kevin J. Martin Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Martin,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your efforts against the mandatory installation of digital tuners in television sets. I was shocked and disappointed by the vote to require this, angered by the notion that Congress thinks it knows better than I what I should watch and how I should watch it, and by the FCC's approval of this initiative.

I do not believe that government should be demanding this kind of transformation from manufacturers, or consumers, and I am relieved to see that there is at least one person out there who shares my opinion.

While I understand the financial benefits involved in switching to digital television, and I can related to efficiency government is trying to obtain, I simply do not agree that taking away a person's choice of what kind of television programming to receive is the way to go about this.

I do not consider myself an above-average or even average TV viewer. If fact, I do not currently have cable and generally only watch news programming. I do not need a satellite or digital feed to be perfectly content with my television viewing experience. However, the FCC is telling me that I must spend *more* money to buy my next television set because manufacturers are forced to install digital tuners, and I will not even be using the digital aspect! This is unfair.

Believe me, if I should ever want digital cable, I would purchase it (if I could ever afford it). However, I can promise you that unless I do have digital cable, I will never purchase a television set with a digital tuner. I will buy three television sets next year -before these demands go into effect- with extraordinary warrantees on all of them if I have to, but digital will not become a part of my home until *I* decide to bring it in.

I only wish that more Americans felt as I do, that television is not a necessity and should not be made more expensive for the sake of government's convenience. Thank you very much for dissenting from this vote. At least someone in government has the interests of the American people at heart.

Confirmed

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Sincerely,